

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-08

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INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

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AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

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AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 27256

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, EEC, XF, FR

SUBJECT: EURO-ARAB DIALOGUE

REF: A. BONN 17832; B. EC BRUSSELS 8773

1. FRENCH HAVE TOLD US HERE THAT EC-NINE FOREIGN MINISTERS WILL DISCUSS EURO-ARAB DIALOGUE AT THEIR NOVEMBER 18 MEETING IN PARIS, ALTHOUGH THEY HAVE NOT SHARED WITH US THE SPECIFICS OF THE AGENDA FOR THIS DISCUSSION. REFTELS INDICATE THAT ONE ELEMENT OF NOVEMBER 18 DISCUSSION WILL BE PLO/PALESTINIAN PARTICIPATION IN EURO-ARAB DIALOGUE. IN THE EVENT THE FRENCH HAVE NOT ALREADY CONSULTED WITH US ELSEWHERE ON THE MATTER AND SHOULD WASHINGTON HAVE STRONG FEELINGS ABOUT PLO
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PARTICIPATION -- EITHER AS FULL MEMBER OR AS OBSERVER --

IN EURO-ARAB DIALOGUE, WE BELIEVE EC-NINE SHOULD BE INFORMED OF OUR CONCERN BEFORE FOREIGN MINISTERS MEET IN PARIS ON NOVEMBER 18.

2. IN THE EVENT THAT THE DEPARTMENT WISHES TO SPECIFY ITS POLICY ON THIS SUBJECT, WE RECOMMEND THAT THE SECRETARY DISPATCH AN IMMEDIATE MESSAGE TO FRENCH FOREIGN MINISTER SAUVAGNARGUES, IN HIS CAPACITY AS PRESIDENT OF EC-NINE COUNCIL, WITH REQUEST THAT HE MAKE KNOWN TO HIS EC-NINE COLLEAGUES OUR VIEWS ON THIS SUBJECT AT SUCH TIME AS IT MIGHT COME UP IN EC-NINE DISCUSSION. MOREOVER, WE RECOMMEND THAT THE SAME MESSAGE BE PASSED SIMULTANEOUSLY TO THE OTHER EC FOREIGN MINISTERS AND THE EC COMMISSION PRESIDENT, AS APPROPRIATE. BY THESE MEASURES WE WOULD DIMINISH THE POSSIBILITY THAT THE EC-NINE FOREIGN MINISTERS MIGHT REACH CONCLUSIONS ON THE PLO ISSUE IN THE COURSE OF THE NOVEMBER 18 MEETING WHICH WOULD BE AT CROSS PURPOSES WITH OUR EFFORTS IN THE MIDDLE EAST.

RUSH

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